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SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 3 October 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the following statement from the Office of the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, dated 1 October 1994.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this statement as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 39, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIC
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Office of the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 1 October 1994

Owing to various misinterpretations and speculations in the Western foreign media in regard to our otherwise clear position with respect to the lifting of the arms embargo, the Office of the President of the Presidency issues the following statement.

The position of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina with respect to the lifting of the arms embargo remains unchanged and is based on the inalienable right of our peoples to self-defence. This position was clearly defined by Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the conclusion of his speech before the United Nations General Assembly, on 27 September 1994.

With respect to this, we expect President Clinton to forward the announced letter to the Security Council by the end of October 1994, with a request that the arms embargo be lifted. In the event that this request is rejected, we expect President Clinton to propose to the United States Congress the adoption of decision on the unilateral lifting of the arms embargo.

In order to help reach an agreement in the Security Council, and to facilitate the further stay of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), primarily because of the besieged territories on the river Drina (the towns of Srebrenica and Zepa), we have offered a deferred execution of the decision on the lifting of the arms embargo for six months.

Bearing in mind the concession the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has thus offered, the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina expects that the international community, in the meantime, will carry out the six-point programme indicated in the speech of President Izetbegovic before the General Assembly, in New York.